



Attorney Docket No. 00037/LH

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Yutaka USAMI et al

Serial No. : 09/490,631

Filed : January 24, 2000

For : ELECTRIC NETWORK SIMULATING
METHOD, SIMULATING APPARATUS,
AND MEDIUM FOR STORING
SIMULATION PROGRAM

Art Unit : 2123

Examiner : Samarina Makhdoom

R E S P O N S E

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R :

This is responsive to the Office Action mailed January 2,
2003, the term for response to which expires on April 2, 2003.

R E M A R K S

Claims 1-5, 7, 9-13, 15, 17-21 AND 23 were rejected under
35 USC 102 as being anticipated by USP 5,313,398 ("Rohrer et al"),
and claims 6, 8, 14, 16, 22 and 24 were rejected under 35 USC 103
as being obvious in view of the combination of Rohrer et al and
USP 6,271,579 ("Going et al"). These rejections, however, are
respectfully traversed.

According to the present invention as recited in claim 1, for
example, a simulation method is provided in which an operation of

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